

Message Text

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AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, NATO

SUBJ: TERRORISM: NAC DISCUSSION OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

REF: STATE 11880; B) USNATO 106; C) USNATO 077

1. AT JANUARY 29 NAC MEETING, SYG LUNS REQUESTED SPECIAL COMMITTEE'S CHAIRMAN FOR 1974, NOLLAU (FRG), TO PRESENT THE COMMITTEE'S HALF-YEARLY REVIEW OF SUBVERSIVE AND INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES. LUNS NOTED THAT SECTION VIII OF REPORT COVERED SUBJECT OF TERRORISM AND REMARKED THAT DETAILED WORK OF COMMITTEE, WHICH TAKES PLACE IN INFORMAL SESSIONS, WAS NOT FULLY REFLECTED IN REPORT.

2. NOLLAU COMMENTED THAT IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS MANDATE SPECIAL COMMITTEE HAD BEEN CONCERNED WITH QUESTION OF TERRORISM SINCE 1970. WHILE THE COMMITTEE WAS NOT AN ACTION GROUP, IT WAS A USEFUL INSTRUMENT FOR EXCHANGING INFORMATION. IT HAD INFORMED THE COUNCIL AND MEMBERS OF RELEVANT INFORMATION ON TERRORIST GROUPS AND, AS FRG OFFICIAL, NOLLAU BELIEVED MEMBER NATIONS HAD BENEFITED FROM INFORMATION RECEIVED. NOLLAU ALSO EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF BILATERAL CHANNELS, INCLUDING CONTACTS WITH NON-
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NATO MEMBERS LIKE JAPAN AND SWITZERLAND, FOR PASSING INFORMATION ON TERRORIST GROUPS.

3. IN VEILED REFERENCE TO EXCLUSION OF U.S. EXPERT FROM

PART OF NOVEMBER SPECIAL COMMITTEE MEETING, DE STAERCKE (BELGIUM) ASKED NOLLAU WHY INCIDENT OCCURRED AND EXPRESSED HOPE IN HIS CAPACITY AS DEAN THAT IT WOULD NOT HAPPEN AGAIN. NOLLAU SAID NO INCIDENT OCCURRED. HE HAD AGREED TO U.S. EXPERT'S ATTENDING MEETING WHEN COMMITTEE DISCUSSED AGENDA ITEM IN WHICH EXPERT WAS INTERESTED. EXPERT ATTENDED MEETING AND THEN LEFT. DE STAERCKE AND LUNS SAID THIS WAS NOT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT TOOK PLACE.

4. BRUCE (U.S.) EMPHASIZED CONTINUED U.S. INTEREST IN SERIOUS SPECIAL COMMITTEE WORK ON COMBATING TERRORISM. HE SAID THAT COMMITTEE SHOULD CONTINUE TO ATTACH IMPORTANCE TO TERRORISM ITEMS AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT ALLIED GOVERNMENTS WHICH SHARE OUR INTEREST IN THIS ISSUE WILL PROVIDE SUBSTANTIAL INPUTS TO COMMITTEE WORK ON TERRORIST THREATS AND COUNTERMEASURES. BRUCE ASKED SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE WHAT COMMITTEE HAD DONE IN PRACTICAL WAY TO INVOLVE GOVERNMENTAL ORGANS OTHER THAN SECURITY AND INTELLIGENCE EXPERTS IN EFFORTS AGAINST TERRORISM AND HOW EXCHANGES BETWEEN MEMBER NATIONS ON COUNTERMEASURES TO TERRORISM COULD BE IMPROVED. NOTING REFERENCE IN JANUARY 11 LONDON TIMES ARTICLE TO POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE TO TERRORISTS FROM CRIMINAL ORGANIZATIONS AND RADICAL GOVERNMENTS, BRUCE SAID HE HOPED SPECIAL COMMITTEE WOULD GIVE PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO INTERNATIONAL TIES OF TERRORIST GROUPS OF INTEREST TO NATO COUNTRIES.

5. NOLLAU SAID COMMITTEE EXCHANGED INFORMATION AMONG ITS MEMBERS WHICH THEY IN TURN RELAYED TO RELEVANT NATIONAL AUTHORITIES ON NEED TO KNOW BASIS. HE BELIEVED COUNTERMEASURES COULD BEST BE IMPROVED BY IMPROVING COLLECTION AND RAPID TRANSMISSION OF INFORMATION ON TERRORISTS' PLANS. HE NOTED FRG EFFORTS TO DEVELOP ELECTRONIC DATA BASE ON TERRORISTS AND DIFFICULTY OF DIRECTLY LINKING ELECTRONIC PROCESSING SYSTEMS OF CONCERNED GOVERNMENTS. NOLLAU SAID HE HAD NO KNOWLEDGE OF ANY CRIMINAL ASSISTANCE TO TERRORISTS. SOME GROUPS WERE RECEIVING ASSISTANCE FROM RADICAL ARAB GOVERNMENTS SUCH AS LIBYA AND IRAQ.

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6. PECK (UK) SUPPORTED BRUCE'S COMMENTS. HE SAID UK BELIEVED IT WAS IMPORTANT FOR ALLIES TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON HOW BEST TO COORDINATE ANTI-TERRORIST EFFORTS AND ORGANIZATION WITHIN INDIVIDUAL GOVERNMENTS. ALLIES COULD ALSO LEARN FROM ONE ANOTHER'S VIEWS ON SUCH ISSUES AS WHETHER GOVERNMENTS SHOULD KEEP PROMISES GIVEN TO TERRORISTS TO SECURE RELEASE OF HOSTAGES. PECK BELIEVED COUNCIL MIGH WISH TO DISCUSS THESE QUESTIONS IN RESTRICTED SESSION. HE NOTED THAT SPECIAL COMMITTEE'S REVIEW OFFERED LITTLE MORE THAN RECITATION OF EVENTS THAT HAD TAKEN PLACE AND EXPRESSED HOPE MEMBERS WOULD NOT HOLD BACK ON PROVIDING INFORMATION TO SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON SENSITIVE ITEMS. PECK RAISED NUMBER OF SPECIAFIC QUESTIONS ABOUT INCIDENTS ON WHICH OTHER MEMBERS MIGHT COMMENT.

7. LUNS SUPPORT EARNEST POLITICAL LEVEL CONSIDERATION OF BETTER INTRA-GOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION OF ANTI-TERRORIST EFFORTS. SVART (DENMARK) SAID PARA FOUR OF THE HALF-YEARLY REVIEW EXAGGERATED COMMUNIST GAINS IN DANISH LOCAL COUNCILS IN MARCH 1974 ELECTIONS. RESPONDING TO ONE OF PECK'S QUESTIONS, DE ROSE (FRANCE) SAID HIS GOVERNMENT WAS INVESTIGATING DEMONSTRATIONS BY FRENCH TROOPS AT DRAGUIGNAN AND KARLSRUHE. HE WOULD INFORM HIS AUTHORITIES OF INTEREST EXPRESSED AT COUNCIL MEETING REGARDING THESE INCIDENTS AND IF APPROPRIATE FRENCH REPRESENTATIVE MIGHT COMMENT ON THEM AT NEXT SPECIAL COMMITTEE MEETING.

8. CATALANO (ITALY) SAID PARA 13 OF THE REVIEW ACCURATELY CHARACTERIZED PCI ACTIVITIES. HE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT PCI LEADERS' ACCEPTANCE OF THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE AS A REALITY WAS QUALIFIED WITH THE PROVISO THAT BOTH BLOCKS SHOULD DISBAND. BUWALDA (NETHERLANDS) SAID COUNCIL SHOULD CONSIDER SPECIAL COMMITTEES REPORTS MORE PROMPTLY. RESPONDING TO ANOTHER OF PECK'S QUESTIONS, HE SAID "LEAGUE OF CONSCRIPTS" HAD ORGANIZED AN ANTI-NATO CONGRESS AT Utrecht IN DECEMBER. HE WAS NOT SURE WHETHER THE 800 PARTICIPANTS FROM THE NETHERLANDS, U.S., UK, FRG, AND PORTUGAL INCLUDED MILITARY PERSONNEL ON ACTIVE DUTY. THEODOROPoulos (GREECE) SUPPORTED MORE TIMELY NAC CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE REVIEW AND SAID COMMITTEE SHOULD GIVE CAREFUL CONSIDERATION TO QUESTION OF INFLUENCE OF COMMUNIST PARTIES IN NEWS MEDIA AND OTHER AREAS OF PUBLIC LIFE MENTIONED IN PARA 10 OF THE REVIEW. MENZIES (CANADA) SAID HE ALSO BELIEVED COUNCIL SHOULD EXCHANGE VIEWS ON METHODS OF COMBATING TERRORISM AND SHOULD
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CONSIDER SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS MORE PROMPTLY.

9. LUNS AND DIRECTOR NATO OFFICE OF SECURITY ABIDIAN SAID THEY WOULD TAKE STEPS TO ENSURE MORE TIMELY COUNCIL DISCUSSION OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS.BRUCE

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